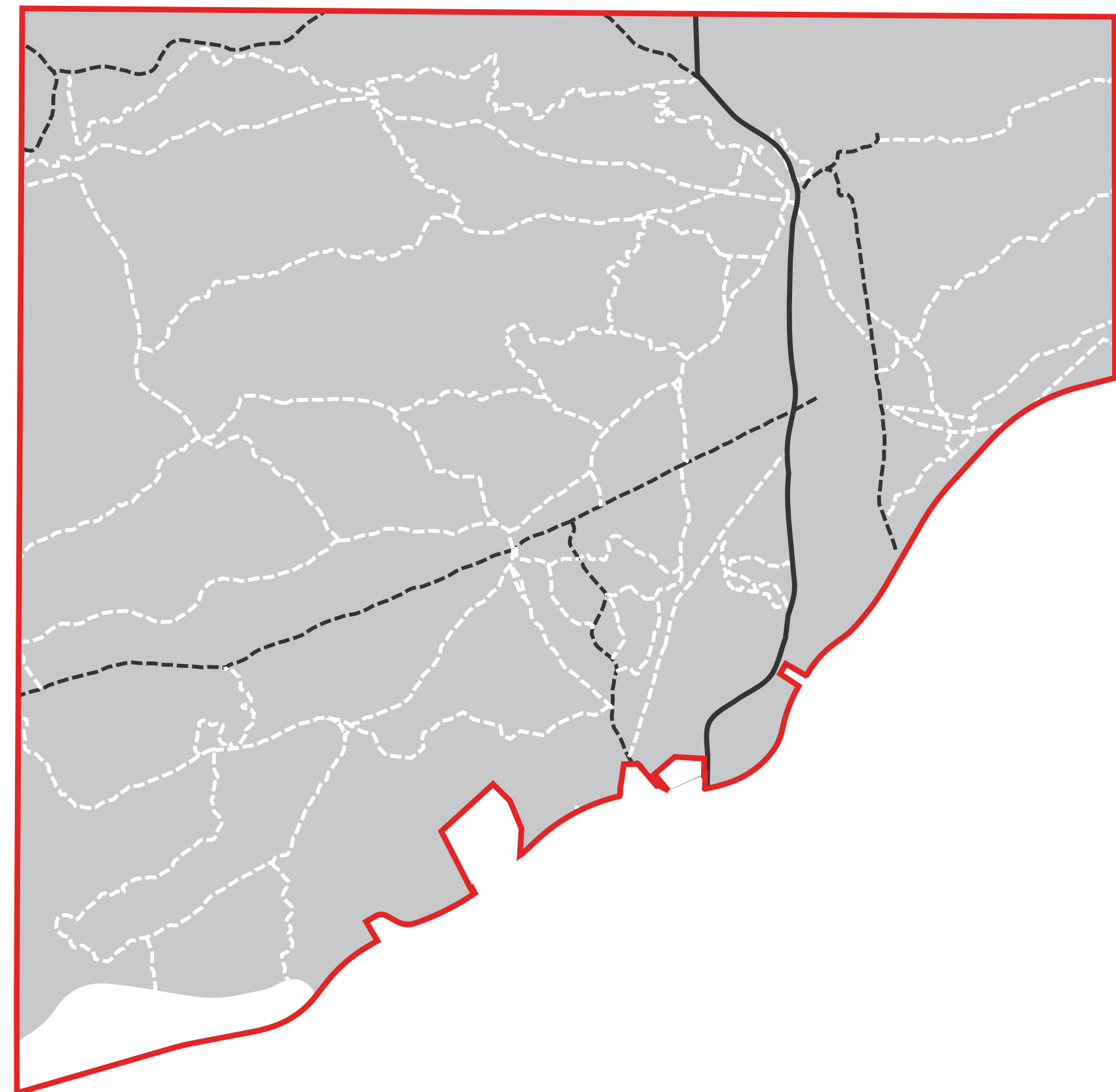


HIKER / TRAIL-RUNNER / DOG-WALKER



Use Zone



- 20+ miles of trails
- easy to moderate trail difficulty
- site access on foot or from trailheads with parking
- typical trail use on a weekly basis for 1-2 hours

Interaction with Other Users



bikers: no conflicts; trail etiquette working



dirt-jumpers: would like to see better signage on the approach to the 'Trails' jump area



motorized vehicles: have seen some on the trails and feel that it is dangerous to allow them on multi-use trails; hikers feel that they should be contained within the limits of the track off of NM-599, however they are concerned that some motorized-users will continue to cut fencing and will not remain in a restricted area of use



equestrians: concerned about horses widening some wilderness trails (especially from irresponsible trail use during the muddy season); do not like horse manure on the trail paths; dogs sometimes spook the horses; there should be separate trails for horses to limit future conflicts between users

Needs / Wants

Parking

- better parking at trailheads on Camino de los Montoyas - the ditches are very deep between road and parking area
- better maintenance for the parking lot by the mailboxes off of Camino la Tierra; it currently has very bad drainage

Trail Access

- re-design and landscaping of certain trailheads to make them more visible, accessible, and attractive
- restroom facilities at certain trailheads
- potential for City to purchase the land off of Camino la Tierra and annex it into the City as a trailhead and connection to the La Tierra Trails system

Ecological Preservation

- preservation and protection of some land from all human users (meadows are ideal for preservation since hiker/bikers/equestrians prefer ridges)
- re-zoning of the La Tierra Trails area to 'open space'
- a study performed by a wildlife ecologist to study the area

Trail Development

- better signage needed

Sustainable Trails

- better trail construction that preserves the land and native plants (meadows trails should go on perimeter of opening, trails should use current sustainable standards, trails should not be constructed in drainageways, etc.)

Leash Policy

- off-leash dog-walking area (with rules to keep dogs on leash at trailheads and parking lots)

Site Cleanup

- trash and unused fence remnants need to be removed

Concerns

- a "dogs on leash" policy would limit exercise of both the walker and the dog
- history of gunshots and semi-permanent campsites
- area will continue to be used as a dump site unless additional fencing and signage is installed
- see 'Interaction with Other Users' for concerns related to individual user types

